

SECRET

STAT

STAT

May 23, 1984

4:00 p.m.

STAT

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: INSIDE CEREMONY - CIA GROUNDBREAKING
 CEREMONY
 THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1984

Since I met with you here a scant 2 years ago, eight new stars have been added to the silent memorial engraved in the wall of this foyer -- eight courageous lives lost in dedicated service to their country. Seven of those eight were victims of terrorism, their names will never be known outside this organization; they are human beings whose sacrifice can never be publicly acknowledged. Moreover, as we meet today, one of your colleagues is in the hands of lawless terrorists, and we pray for his safety. These precious lives symbolize the perilous state of the world we live and work and sometimes die in; and they underscore the need for our dedication and resolve to make it safer for generations to come. The terrorists who committed these vile acts would destroy our lives, our freedoms, and our values. In our crusade for peace and freedom, your work is vital, indispensable and will someday be a moving chapter in the annals of free men and women.

I need say no more except that, as your President, I speak for millions of Americans who, if they had the opportunity to be here today, would say to you: Thank you; thank you from the bottom of our hearts and keep up your noble and inspiring work in the cause of freedom.

And God bless you all.

SECRET